

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A fluid delivery device for a printing machine comprising:

 a rotating roller having a roller surface with a roller radius of curvature, the roller surface carrying a fluid film; and

 a metering element having an edge for splitting the fluid film and a first concave surface facing the roller surface;

 the metering element being movable with respect to the roller surface so that the edge moves along a radial line from a center of the rotating roller.

Claim 2 (original): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the metering element has a second concave surface opposite the first concave surface.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the first concave surface has a radius of curvature similar to that of the roller radius of curvature.

Claim 4 (original): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the first concave surface corresponds to an arc of 10 degrees or more of the roller surface.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the metering element is rigid.

Claim 6 (original): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the metering element has a horizontal bottom surface.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The device as recited in claim 14 wherein the metering element has an edge movable radially along a line from a radial center of the roller.

Claim 8 (original): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein the fluid is ink.

Claim 9 (original): The device as recited in claim 1 wherein a thickness of the fluid film downstream from the metering element is half of an average distance of the concave surface from the roller surface.

Claim 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (previously presented): A method for metering fluid in a printing press having an operating speed comprising the steps of:

- supplying fluid to a supply container;
- rotating a roller so as to form a film of the fluid on a surface of the roller; and
- splitting the film using a metering element, the metering element having a concave surface facing the surface of the roller;

wherein metering element has an edge movable solely in a radial direction with respect to the roller.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 12 further comprising setting a distance between the concave surface and the surface of the roller.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A fluid delivery device for a printing machine comprising:

- a rotating roller having a roller surface with a roller radius of curvature, the roller surface carrying a fluid film; and
- a metering element having an edge for splitting the fluid film and a first concave surface facing the roller surface;

the metering element being movable with respect to the roller surface;

wherein the metering element has a second concave surface opposite the first concave surface.

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (previously presented): A fluid delivery device for a printing machine comprising:

- a rotating roller having a roller surface with a roller radius of curvature, the roller surface carrying a fluid film; and

- a metering element having an edge for splitting the fluid film and a first concave surface facing the roller surface;

- the metering element being movable with respect to the roller surface;

- wherein the first concave surface corresponds to an arc of 10 degrees or more of the roller surface.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A fluid delivery device for a printing machine comprising:

- a rotating roller having a roller surface with a roller radius of curvature, the roller surface carrying a fluid film; and

- a metering element having an edge for splitting the fluid film and a first concave surface facing the roller surface;

- the metering element being movable with respect to the roller surface;

- wherein a thickness of the fluid film downstream from the metering element is half of an average distance of the concave surface from the roller surface.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The fluid delivery device as recited in claim 1 further comprising a reducer roll interacting with the rotating roller.

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 12 wherein the first concave surface has a radius of curvature similar to that of the roller radius of curvature.

Claim 21 (new): The fluid delivery device as recited in claim 17 further comprising a fluid supply container, the roller surface contacting the fluid supply container and the fluid film before splitting exiting the supply container.

Claim 22 (new): The fluid delivery device as recited in claim 16 further comprising a fluid supply container, the roller surface contacting the fluid supply container and the fluid film before splitting exiting the supply container.

Claim 23 (new): The fluid delivery device as recited in claim 1 further comprising a fluid supply container, the roller surface contacting the fluid supply container and the fluid film before splitting exiting the supply container.